

**Ibis and Heron Records from Coolgardie.**—Owing to the excellent season experienced in the winter of 1955, there was a large accumulation of surface water in the Goldfields, and a corresponding dispersal of the aquatic bird population.

At Coolgardie, where over 17 inches of rain fell as compared to the average of 10 inches, one effect was that the Coolgardie 'Gorge', which has an earthen dam across it, contained water for the first time since 1948, giving a shallow body of water several feet deep and about 100 yards long. The only aquatic birds attracted were two very evident species, rather uncommon in the district, namely the Straw-necked Ibis (*Threskiornis spinicollis*) and the White-necked Heron (*Notophox pacifica*).

The Straw-necked Ibis was seen on two occasions. On November 10, 1955, a flock of 12 birds was seen flying low over Coolgardie in a N.W. direction. Between November 12 and 16 three birds were seen at the Gorge. One left on the 14th, and the other two on the 16th.

The White-necked Heron was seen at the Gorge from November 10 to 20. A single bird was seen either standing in the water or on the edge for the whole of this time.

Although the Gorge held water until mid-winter, no other species were seen during the relatively limited time work allowed for observations.

—DON REID, Bullfinch.

**Penetration of the South-west by Eyrean Birds.**—In recent years a number of Eyrean bird species of the mallee-sandplain type have been continually extending their range into the South-west (the main stronghold of the Bassian component of the bird fauna now inhabiting Western Australia), along the lightly timbered coastal strip in the vicinity of the Swan River, and also along a narrow coastal strip in the extreme south (Serventy and Whittell, *Birds of Western Australia*). Several of my observations in the central and northern sections of the Swan coastal plain during the last few years have somewhat emphasized the rapidity of this advance.

It was the firm contention of many that the heavy jarrah forest belt was impeding the southern advancement of the Crested Bell-bird (*Orcoica gutturalis*) until B. V. Teague (*W.A. Nat.*, 4: 145) observed the species at Williams in 1945. That the species is apparently extending its range along the Swan coastal plain was indicated on August 19, 1957, when H. A. Atkinson and I identified it in *Banksia Menziesii* country, only six miles north of Yanehep. This extends the range of the species from Mogumber. The species' characteristic ventriloquial call was again heard on August 31, when D. Bathgate, E. Garratt and I visited the same locality.

The White-backed Swallow (*Cheramoeca leucosterna*) has penetrated along the coastal strip to as far south as Yanehep, Mogumber being the usual southern boundary. On August 19, 1957, H. A. Atkinson and I saw four White-backed Swallows, 10 miles south of Laneelin, and in a sandy bank of a hill cut away during road

construction four completed tunnels belonging to this species were located. Excavation appeared to be recent, as four others were found in the initial stages of construction, and we were unable to discover eggs in one nest inspected. When in the same area with D. Bathgate and E. Garratt, on August 31, many additional nesting tunnels and several White-backed Swallows were seen, establishing the fact that the species is common in the area. The White-backed Swallow has also recently penetrated into the South-west forested area at a number of places, E. L. Carthew (*W.A. Nat.*, 2: 167) having recorded the species at Muresk, and D. L. Reid having noted it between Bannister and Williams.

Improved environmental conditions are thought to be the reason why the Crested Pigeon (*Ocyphaps lophotes*) is extending its range into the South-west. The species has now penetrated along the coastal plain to the vicinity of Fremantle; I observed an individual at Bibra Lake on October 6, 1956.

—JULIAN R. FORD, Fremantle.

**East Kimberley Butterflies.**—The article in *W.A. Nat.*, 5: 229, by John Warham on "West Kimberley Butterflies" and his comment regarding the sparseness of published information on the entomology of the Kimberley Division prompts me to present this list of butterflies available in the collection of the Western Australian Department of Agriculture.

*Acraea andromacha* Fabricius

*Hypolimnas bolina ncrina* Fabricius

*Precis orithya albicincta* Butler

*Danaida melissa hamata* Macleay

*Euploea corinna corinna* Macleay

*Hypocysta adiante antirius* Butler

*Zizeeria alsulus* Herrich-Schaeffer

*Catopsilia pomona pomona* Fabricius

*Catopsilia pyranthe pythias* Waterhouse and Lyell

*Terias hecabe sulphurata* Butler

*Papilio demoleus sthenclus* Macleay

*Papilio fuscus canopus* Westwood.

The above butterflies were caught by me at the Kimberley Research Station (KRS), on the Ord River Station about 60 miles from Wyndham, during January and February, 1957. They have been preserved in the collection of the Department of Agriculture, Perth.

Butterflies previously caught in the East Kimberleys and which are in the Department's collection are as follows:—

*Acraea andromacha* Fabricius. Ivanhoe Station, June, 1944 (C. F. H. Jenkins); Ord River Station, June, 1944 (C. F. H. Jenkins); Hall's Creek, May, 1944 (C. F. H. Jenkins); Ord River Station, March, 1947 (Boseh); KRS, February, 1953 (R. G. Lukins); KRS, June-July, 1953 (R. G. Lukins).

*Hypolimnas bolina ncrina* Fabricius. Ord River Station, March-April, 1947 (Boseh); KRS, May, 1950 (E. C. B. Langfield); KRS,